


**Spencer County Soil & Water Conservation District
Board of Supervisors Meeting
July 23, 2007 - 7:30pm CDT
SWCD Office**

1. Minutes from June's meeting
2. Financial Report
 - ✓ Treasurer's report (Stephanie)
 - ✓ Claims (Stephanie)
3. Old Business
 - ✓ Web site update (Trish)
 - ✓ Affiliate Members (signing certificates) (Stephanie)
 - ✓ Field Day (Trish)
 - ✓ 4-H Fair – judging & exhibits (Stephanie/John/Keela)
4. Items on Hold
 - ✓ Resolutions for 2008 Annual Business Meeting (bring your ideas) Trish
5. New Business
 - ✓ RULE 5 – ()Evaluations, ()Complaints, ()Reviews
 - ✓ AWN thank you letter (Stephanie)
 - ✓ Leadership Training for Supervisors/Staff (Stephanie)
 - ✓ Budget Hearing (Stephanie)
6. Staff & Partner Reports
 - ✓ Trish
 - ✓ Stephanie
 - ✓ John
 - ✓ Keela
 - ✓ Rita
 -  Conservation plans
7. Other Business
 - ✓ FYI – Letter from Putnam County SWCD (Stephanie)
 - ✓ CWI Board recommendations from July 11th meeting (Mark)

Spencer County Soil & Water Conservation District June Meeting Minutes

The Spencer County Soil & Water Conservation District met on June 25, 2007 at the SWCD office. The following Supervisors and Associates were present: Mark Lubbehusen, David Ayer, Burke Sibrel, Mike Roos, Alan Waninger, Paul Giles, and Brian Rahman. SWCD staff present were: Stephanie Litherland, Trish Dugas, and John Hurley. NRCS staff present were: Rita Schaus, Keela Deaton, and Dan Hovland. Also present were: Spencer County Commissioner, Al Logsdon, and Phil Schmidt, Extension Educator.

Mark called the meeting to order at 7:35pm

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as mailed. Motion carried.

Stephanie gave financial report- \$33,003.05 - balance. Motion was made and seconded to approve balance as given. Motion carried. Motion was made and seconded to pay the following claims:

Business Equipment District:	\$ 33.58
Stephanie Litherland	\$ 68.43
Patricia Dugas	\$ 142.16
John Hurley	\$ 61.11
Cecil's Printing	\$ 123.75
Hoosier Business Equipment	\$ 28.74
Spencer County Auditor	<u>\$ 994.00</u>
Total	\$1,451.77

Trish updated the board on the SWCD's website. Website should be up and running soon. Rita stated that Trish is saving the County \$1000 by designing the logo.

Stephanie reported that she has the original and a copy of the bond from Farm Bureau Insurance. Names are not listed on the document, but are on file at the office.

Stephanie stated that she received a 9 page fax copy of the Spencer County Soil Erosion Control Ordinance and that she couldn't put that in the Soil Scoop because of its length. Mark suggested that Stephanie put a small article in the next Soil Scoop detailing who to contact and who enforces the ordinance.

Stephanie reported that she has received 34 Affiliate Membership donations to date, with a total of \$1310.00. Mark and Burke signed the certificates. It was agreed to back up one month each year in sending out Affiliate Membership requests to get the official mailing date back to January.

Trish stated that the date for the Wetland Field Day has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 7th with registration beginning at 5:30pm. Speakers will include David Drew; former NRCS wetland specialist, Bob Dodd; DNR Biologist, Laura Bowling; Purdue University Hydrologist, and Jarrett Manek; O'Bannon Woods. Trish stated that she will get seed packets for wetland grasses to hand out at the Field Day, and could also hand out leftover key chains and pencils. Trish stated that as of today, there has been \$75 in cash donations. Holiday World donated tickets that Trish passed on to RC&D for their AWN fun day. Mark asked Trish to explain to Mr. Logsdon about the CWI, and how it plays into the

Field Day. It was suggested that the Field Day be advertised with local radio stations along with local newspapers.

Trish gave reports on Rule 5 reviews on Cedar Ridge Estates, Holiday World & Splashin Safari, Fairway Condos, Thermwood, and the Santa Claus Forced Sew Main – Phase III. Mike asked if the SWCD was being compensated for the reviews. Mark stated no. Paul said that the original law stated we would be compensated, but that it hasn't been enforced. That in the past they tried to bill for it, but money was never received.

Stephanie and Trish, along with the Supervisors discussed the 2008 Budget. A motion was made and seconded to approve the total as \$50,157.00. Stephanie will type and submit to Gloria at the Auditor's office on Tuesday, June 26th (due by June 29th).

John gave an update on his wetland display that he will have at the 4-H fair.

Trish stated that Resolutions for the 2008 Annual Business Meeting are due by September 7th and asked if the Board had any they wanted to submit. A motion was made and seconded to table the resolutions until the July meeting, with Supervisors bringing suggestions then.

Trish, Stephanie, and John gave their monthly reports.

Rita presented Conservation Plans. Motion was made to approve the following plans: Don Schaefer – Compliance Plans; Mark Hildenbrand – Compliance Plans; St. Meinrad Arch Abbey – WRP.

Rita passed a copy of the DC talking points. She introduced new Soil Conservationist, Keela Deaton who is duty-stationed out of the Rockport Service Center for about a year or so. Also, NRCS has completed the FSA compliance reviews and the whistle blowers for 2007 without any violations in either county.

Dan Hovland stated that there are over 380 new whistleblowers in southern Indiana for 2007; many are in Perry and Spencer. Indiana is requesting assistance from the National Office based that the volume is unreasonable. Of last year's 80 + whistleblowers approximately 4% were in violation, which is the same rate caught in the FSA compliance reviews. Dan also stated that he suggests the Board of Supervisors read their State Soil Conservation Board Meeting minutes for information on the CWI grant and how it will affect our area.

Spencer County Commissioner, Al Logsdon updated the board on drainage projects and the ethanol plant. Mr. Logsdon stated that they now have a Drainage Task Force in effect and he is working with Phil Schmidt, and other members to check into non-legal drains, and how to repair them. There are currently four areas within the county that they will initially work with so the public can see what's going on. The Task Force is in the process of seeing whether cumulative funds can be used to help fund these projects. Attorney, Jack Robinson, is researching legalities involved. Mr. Logsdon stated he had been in touch with the US Army Corps of Engineer about cleaning log jams, and that a permit is not needed. But if you remove a silt dam, then a permit is required.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned at 9:44pm.

Spencer County Soil & Water Conservation District Special Session Meeting Minutes

The Spencer County Soil & Water Conservation District met in special session on July 9, 2007 at the SWCD office to make recommendations for the CWI funding proposal. Supervisors and Associates present were: Mark Lubbehusen, David Ayer, Burke Sibrel, Alan Waninger, and Paul Giles. SWCD staff present were: Stephanie Litherland and John Hurley. NRCS staff present were: Keela Deaton. Also present were: Kenny Eck, District Support Specialist.

Mark called the meeting to order at 7:37pm.

Kenny explained the IASWCD's intake on CWI funding. CWI funding has been increased by 1 million (\$500,000 per year). Their idea is to hire 23 additional watershed agents. A steering committee would be in charge of writing grants and giving directions to the watershed agents, who in turn would help with EQIP and putting more conservation out. They also recommend an 8 cent per acre to help fund the additional staff. CWI would fund 6 cents and counties would fund 2 cents, making the cost per county minimal. The first year would be funded fully by the State, then the counties would have 1 ½ years to come up with the 2 cent funding. The IASWCD also sees the need for more leadership programs to help supervisors work with and have more skills to talk with county and government officials. Kenny stated that what the Board needs to have accomplished for the July 11th meeting in Petersburg is: What best meets Spencer County's needs, their likes/dislikes.

Mark asked Kenny what would happen to the person hired for 2 years, and then funding is no longer available. Kenny stated that person would have to be let go. Mark and the Board didn't agree with that idea.

Following are the Board's recommendations:

1. Board is in consensus with the IASWCD's idea concerning the watersheds, however,
2. The Board asks that we use our existing staff and not hire additional people
3. The watershed group should have local Board control. The Board has concerns about monies given so that it can be spent with ACCOUNTABILITY.
4. The Board has concerns that the future funding should be available to keep valuable employees.
5. The Board does not want present programs eliminated. Spencer County already has a technician who handles these programs efficiently.
6. The Board is concerned where the 2 cent per acre local money would come from.
7. The Board wants to know who is responsible for paying rental space since Spencer County is between two watersheds.

These recommendations will be taken to the July 11th meeting in Petersburg with Mark and Burke definitely attending, and possibly Alan and Paul.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20pm.